

**TEXT: Genesis 32-33**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **RSVP for Sunday Now** - The RSVP for next Sunday's services at 8:00AM, 9:30AM, and 11 AM are now open. Make sure to RSVP every week that you would like to attend a service. And don't forget that we have the K-2 room in the 11 AM service! The RSVP forms will close on Saturday at 2PM. RSVP now at [redeemerchurch.com/regathering](http://redeemerchurch.com/regathering)
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### **BIG IDEA: We need grace to get past our past**

#### **Read Genesis 32:1-5**

1. Jacob is finally heading home. But before he can go home, he has to face his past. He has to face his brother, Esau. This is an important teaching that we see in Scriptures: in order to have a future, you must come to grips with your past. You cannot embrace the future until you have faced your past. Spiritually, you are not right with God until you have dealt with, accepted, and confessed the reality of your sinful past. **What assurances do we, believers, have that gives us confidence to face and deal with our past?**

#### **Read Genesis 32:6-8**

2. Jacob is trying to make sure he doesn't lose everything and everyone he loves. He knows that this will be a blood bath. Jacob is afraid. Facing your past is often a terrifying thing. Because it requires you to admit who you are, what you did, and what you deserve. **We live in a culture where all it wants is to celebrate us for who we think we are. How does the gospel calls us to a different path?**

#### **Read Genesis 32:9-10**

3. In order to face his past - he must first face his God. He must see God for who he really is. The God of Abraham and Isaac. The promise making and the promise keeping God. Also, in order for Jacob to move past his past he must accept it for what it is. He must confess who he really is and plead for grace. **How did Jacob prepare to face and move past his past? How can we do this too?**

#### **Read Genesis 32:22-30**

4. In this passage, we find Jacob sitting alone in the wilderness. Then the pre-incarnate Jesus showed up to fight Jacob as a test. Not a test for God's benefit but for Jacob's. Jacob says he trusts God. Surviving this night without running away proves to Jacob that he really does. **Because our Father loves us and he's committed to our sanctification, He will often test us so that we can truly know whether we trust him or not. What is the test or tests that God is using in your life right now to grow your trust in Him?**

#### **Read Genesis 33:1-11**

5. Jacob finally met with Esau, and what we thought would be a reunion never happened. Even though Esau invited Jacob to live in his land, Jacob doesn't trust him. So Jacob lies again. Jacob and Esau's relationship is never fixed. The family is forever broken. But there is peace. Facing your past isn't about resolution, its about peace. There's some brokenness in your past that cannot and will not be fixed in this lifetime. But you can have peace with it. **How does this challenge or encourage you?**

#### **Read Genesis 33:18-20**

6. This entire scene shows us a glimpse of what it means to face your past. But more than that it shows us the gospel. The wrestling of the true and better Israel (Jesus) purchased for us a blessing that can never be taken from us. We can face our past, because we have faced our God, and because we have faced our God, we can have hope in the blessing secured for our future. **Now, facing our past will never be easy. There are aspects of our past that brings fear to our hearts whenever we think about facing them. How does the gospel encourage you to face them?**